

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 53080
	:	
Shinya HASEGAWA, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 5359
	:	
Patent No.: 7,407,902 B2	:	Issue Date: August 5, 2008
	:	
Application No.: 10/509,491	:	Group Art Unit: 1793
	:	
Filed: September 29, 2004	:	Examiner: Group, Karl E.
	:	
For:	:	BISMUTH GLASS COMPOSITION, AND MAGNETIC HEAD AND PLASMA DISPLAY PANEL INCLUDING THE SAME AS SEALING MEMBER

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.322

Mail Stop Certificate of Correction
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reviewing the above-identified patent, a printing error was discovered therein requiring correction in order to conform the Official Record in the application.

The error noted is set forth on the two attached copies of form PTO-1050 Rev. 2-93 in the manner required by the Commissioner's Notice.

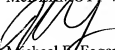
Specifically, in Column 53, Line 37 (Claim 2), change " Nd_2O_3 ," to " Nd_2O_3 --"; in Column 54, Line 9 (Claim 12), change "claims 2 or 3" to "--claims 2 to 3--"; and on Line 50 (Claim 21), change "sealing a member" to "--sealing member--". Attached, please find a copy of the Amendment filed May 12, 2008, which shows the correct version of the claims.

The change requested herein occurred as a result of printing the Letters Patent and the Certificate should be issued without expense under Rule 322 of the Rules of Practice. Accordingly, Applicants request issuance of the Certificate of Correction.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO : 7407902

Page 1 of 1

APPLICATION NO. : 10/509,491

ISSUE DATE : August 05, 2008

INVENTOR(S) : Shinya HASEGAWA, et al.

It is certified that an error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In Column 53, Line 37 (Claim 2), change " Nd_2O_3 " to $\text{--Nd}_2\text{O}_3\text{--}$;

In Column 54, Line 9 (Claim 12), change "claims 2 or 3" to --claims 2 to 3-- ; and

Line 50 (Claim 21), change "sealing a member" to $\text{--sealing member--}$.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

600 13th Street, N.W.
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: ATTENTION Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Docket No.: 043888-0339

PATENT

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Application No.: 10/509,491	:	Group Art Unit: 1793
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Filed: September 29, 2004	:	Examiner: Group, Karl E.
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For:	:	BISMUTH GLASS COMPOSITION, AND MAGNETIC HEAD AND PLASMA
	:	DISPLAY PANEL INCLUDING THE SAME AS SEALING MEMBER

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated October 12, 2007, having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire January 12, 2008, a two-month extension of time up to and including March 12, 2008 having been previously filed, a Notice of Appeal having been filed on March 12, 2008 with a two-month deadline of May 12, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A Bismuth glass composition comprising 1.7 to 12 wt% of SiO_2 , 3 to 9 wt% of B_2O_3 , 9.5 to 19 wt% of ZnO , 62 to 80 wt% of Bi_2O_3 and 0.1 to 4 wt% of Al_2O_3 , and

further comprising 5 wt% or less of an oxide of Group A, 12 wt% or less of an oxide of Group B and 0.1 to 10 wt% of an oxide of Group C, wherein

the oxide of Group A is at least one selected from the group consisting of Li_2O , Na_2O and K_2O ,

the oxide of Group B is at least one selected from the group consisting of MgO , CaO , SrO and BaO , and

the oxide of Group C is at least one selected from the group consisting of Sc_2O_3 , Y_2O_3 , La_2O_3 , CeO_2 , Pr_2O_3 , Nd_2O_3 , Sm_2O_3 , Eu_2O_3 , Gd_2O_3 , Tb_2O_3 , Dy_2O_3 , Ho_2O_3 , Er_2O_3 , Tm_2O_3 , Yb_2O_3 and Lu_2O_3 , and

the weight ratio of Al_2O_3 to SiO_2 is 0.5 or less.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) A bismuth glass composition comprising 1.1 to 4.5 wt% of SiO_2 , 4 to 9 wt% of B_2O_3 , 9.5 to 18 wt% of ZnO and 72 to 85 wt% of Bi_2O_3 and 4wt% or less of Al_2O_3 , and

further comprising 5 wt% or less of an oxide of Group A, 12 wt% or less of an oxide of Group B and 0.1 to 10 wt% of an oxide of Group C, wherein

the oxide of Group A is at least one selected from the group consisting of Li_2O , Na_2O and K_2O ,

the oxide of Group B is at least one selected from the group consisting of MgO , CaO , SrO and BaO ,

the oxide of Group C is at least one selected from the group consisting of Sc_2O_3 , Y_2O_3 , La_2O_3 , CeO_2 , Pr_2O_3 , Nd_2O_3 , Sm_2O_3 , Eu_2O_3 , Gd_2O_3 , Tb_2O_3 , Dy_2O_3 , Ho_2O_3 , Er_2O_3 , Tm_2O_3 , Yb_2O_3 and Lu_2O_3 , and

the weight ratio of Al_2O_3 to SiO_2 is 0.5 or less.

5. (Previously presented) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with claim 1 comprising 4 wt% or less of the oxide of Group A.

6. (Original) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with claim 5, wherein the oxide of Group A comprises 2 wt% or less of Li_2O , 3 wt% or less of Na_2O and 4 wt% or less of K_2O .

7. (Previously presented) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with claim 1 comprising 10 wt% or less of the oxide of Group B.

8. (Original) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with claim 7, wherein the oxide of Group B comprises 5 wt% or less of MgO , 6 wt% or less of CaO , 8 wt% or less of SrO and 10 wt% or less of BaO .

9. (Previously presented) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with any one of claims 1 and 4 to 8 comprising 0.1 to 5 wt% of the oxide of Group C.

10. (Original) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with claim 4 or 5 comprising 0.1 to 2 wt% of Al_2O_3 .

11. (Previously presented) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with any one of claims 4 to 5 comprising 8 wt% or less of the oxide of Group B.

12. (Original) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with claim 11, wherein the oxide of Group B comprises 2 wt% or less of MgO , 0.1 to 4.5 wt% of CaO , 0.1 to 4.5 wt% of SrO and 4 wt% or less of BaO .

13. (Previously presented) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with any one of claims 1 and 4 to 8, wherein the weight ratio of ZnO to B_2O_3 is 0.8 to 2.8.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with any one of claims 4 to 5, wherein the weight ratio of ZnO to B_2O_3 is 1.1 to 2.5.

16. (Previously presented) A sealing member for a magnetic head comprising the bismuth glass composition in accordance with any one of claims 1 and 4 to 8.

17. (Previously presented) A sealing member for a plasma display panel comprising the bismuth glass composition in accordance with any one of claims 4 to 5.

18. (Original) The sealing member for a plasma display panel in accordance with claim 17 further comprising a low-expansion ceramic filler in a weight ratio of 0.01 to 4 with respect to the bismuth glass composition.

19. (Original) The sealing member for a plasma display panel in accordance with claim 18, wherein the low-expansion ceramic filler is at least one selected from the group consisting of cordierite, willemite, forsterite, anorthite, zircon, mullite, β -eucryptite, β -spodumene, cristobalite, barium titanate, titanium oxide, tin oxide, aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide and quartz glass.

20. (Original) A magnetic head comprising a pair of magnetic core halves, at least one of which being provided with a coil groove, a magnetic gap member interposed between surfaces of the magnetic core halves facing to a magnetic gap, and the sealing member in accordance with claim 16 for bonding the pair of magnetic core halves.

21. (Original) The magnetic head in accordance with claim 20 further comprising a magnetic metal film on at least one of the surfaces facing to the magnetic gap.

22. (Original) The magnetic head in accordance with claim 20, wherein each of the paired magnetic core halves comprises a pair of nonmagnetic substrates and a magnetic metal film sandwiched between the nonmagnetic substrates.

23. (Previously presented) A magnetic recording/reproducing device comprising the magnetic head in accordance with claim 20 to perform recording and reproducing information to and from a magnetic information recording medium.

24. (Previously presented) A plasma display panel comprising a front plate and a rear plate facing to each other, display electrodes and address electrodes arranged between the front plate and the rear plate, barrier ribs for isolating the address electrodes, dielectric layers covering the surfaces of the display electrodes and the address electrodes, respectively, and the sealing

member in accordance with any one of claim 17 for bonding the peripheries of the front plate and the rear plate.

25. (Original) The plasma display panel in accordance with claim 24 provided with an air hole formed in the front plate or the rear plate, further comprising a glass tube communicating with the air hole, wherein an opening end of the air hole and an end of the glass tube are bonded with the sealing member.

26. (New) The bismuth glass composition in accordance with claim 4, wherein said bismuth glass composition has a thermal expansion coefficient of $60 \times 10^{-7}/^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $80 \times 10^{-7}/^{\circ}\text{C}$.

REMARKS

I. Introduction

In response to the pending Office Action, Applicants have added new claim 26. In addition, claim 15 was amended to correct an inadvertent error. Support for new claim 26 may be found, for example, on page 88, lines 11-14 of the specification. No new matter is added in this amendment.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter set forth in claims 24 and

25.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed concurrently with this Response.

For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art.

II. The Rejection Of Claims 1, 4-13 And 15-23 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 4-13 and 15-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasegawa et al. (USP No. 6,778,355) in view of Yamamoto et al. (USP No. 6,503,858). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection of the pending claims for at least the following reasons.

With regard to the present invention, amended claims 1 and 4 both recite a Bismuth glass composition containing rare earth element oxides of Group C which is at least one selected from the group consisting of Sc_2O_3 , Y_2O_3 , La_2O_3 , CeO_2 , Pr_2O_3 , Nd_2O_3 , Sm_2O_3 , Eu_2O_3 , Gd_2O_3 , Tb_2O_3 , Dy_2O_3 , Ho_2O_3 , Er_2O_3 , Tm_2O_3 , Yb_2O_3 and Lu_2O_3 .

It has long been established that the language of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) contains the fundamental statement that "a person shall be entitled to a patent unless" certain criteria are met. Criteria for a finding of obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 requires that if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Accordingly, unless there is clear proof that claims are obvious, an Applicant is entitled to a patent under the United States Patent Code.

As is well known in patent law, obviousness can be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so. *In re Kahn*, 441 F.3d 977, 986, 78 USPQ2d 1329, 1335 (Fed. Cir. 2006).

Furthermore, the mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resultant combination obvious unless the results would have been predictable to one of ordinary skill in the art. *KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, 550 U.S. 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007).

Moreover, a statement that modifications of the prior art to meet the claimed invention would have been "well within the ordinary skill of the art at the time the claimed invention was made" because the references relied upon teach that all aspects of the claimed invention were individually known in the art is not sufficient to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness without some objective reason to combine the teachings of the references. *Ex parte Levengood*, 28 USPQ2d 1300 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1993).

With regard to the present application, it has been alleged that Hasegawa teaches the bismuth glass composition of claims 1 and 4 except that Hasegawa fails to disclose a bismuth

glass composition having an oxide of Group C in an amount from 0.1 to 10 wt%. However, it is alleged that the lead glass composition of Yamamoto, which contains an oxide of Group C (Ln_2O_3) in an amount within the range of claims 1 and 4, in combination with Hasegawa, renders claims 1 and 4 obvious.

However, as is set forth above, a mere finding that all aspects of the claimed invention were individually known in the art is not sufficient to establish a finding of obviousness. Rather, the patent law requires that the cited references contain a teaching, suggestion or some articulated reasoning with some rational underpinning to support the legal conclusion of obviousness. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to meet this burden.

As is disclosed in the Abstract and in col. 3, lines 3-10, Yamamoto discloses a glass whose main component is lead (Pb). In contrast, the main component of the glass composition of Hasegawa is bismuth (Bi). In fact, Hasegawa fails to utilize any Pb in its glass compositions. In addition, Yamamoto is completely silent with respect to the use of Bi in its glass compositions. Furthermore, there is no suggestion or teaching that Pb-based and Bi-based glass compositions have such similar properties that an additive to one may be readily incorporated into the other. As such, the proposed combination has no support in either cited prior art reference and accordingly, the combination of Hasegawa and Yamamoto is not readily obvious to one skilled in the art.

To support the combination of Hasegawa and Yamamoto, the Examiner makes the conclusory statement that "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to further included [sic] the Ln oxide in the composition of Hasegawa et al, because Yamamoto et al teach such an inclusion improves flowability, deaeration and mechanical strength of the glass composition."

However, Yamamoto teaches the addition of Ln oxide to a Pb-based glass composition, not a Bi-based composition. Moreover, as stated above, both references are silent towards the use of the main component of the other reference. As the Examiner has not provided any support that suggests that the lanthanide oxides disclosed in the Pb-glass compositions of Yamamoto could be combined with the Bi-glass compositions of Hasegawa, the Examiner has failed to meet the burden of showing the necessary teaching, suggestion or some articulated reasoning with some rational underpinning to support the proposed combination. As such, it is clear that the proposed combination is improper.

Moreover, Hasegawa teaches in col. 2, lines 56-60 that “the conventionally used glasses having a low softening point including lead glasses are not sufficient, especially in terms of water resistance, to be used for the recent electronic equipment and various parts...” Thus, in addition to not disclosing lead, Hasegawa, in fact, teaches away from the use of lead in the glass compositions disclosed therein. In contrast, Yamamoto discloses that when the lead content of the glass composition is less than 44% by weight, vitrification occurs with difficulty (col. 7, lines 27-28 of Yamamoto). Thus, Yamamoto and Hasegawa are mutually exclusive in terms of the main component of their respective glass compositions. As the glass composition of Hasegawa contains no lead, one skilled in the art would not conclude that the bismuth glass composition of Hasegawa could be used with the lanthanide oxide compounds disclosed in the lead glass compositions of Yamamoto. Furthermore, the Examiner has shown no evidence to the contrary.

In addition, the glass composition of Yamamoto is in a heterogeneous state in which crystalline particles of a rare earth element oxide are dispersed in a matrix. As a result, in a glass composition of Yamamoto that is composed mainly of PbO, the addition of the rare earth element improves mechanical strength, but also causes the composition to suffer an increased

risk of crack formation. As such, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to the use of the elements of Yamamoto in the composition of Hasegawa.

As such, it is clear that that the combination of Yamamoto and Hasegawa is improper and accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the § 103 rejection of claims 1 and 4 be withdrawn.

Furthermore, new claims 26 recites that the bismuth glass composition has a thermal expansion coefficient of $60 \times 10^{-7}/^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $80 \times 10^{-7}/^{\circ}\text{C}$. As is discussed on page 88, lines 14-17, in order to reduce the stress and warpage so as not to cause damage to a PDP, the thermal expansion coefficient of a sealing member 16 is from $60 \times 10^{-7}/^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $80 \times 10^{-7}/^{\circ}\text{C}$. This is done because at the point where the sealing between the glass panel of the front and rear plate is attempted, stress warpage occurs due to a difference in thermal expansion after the sealing.

III. All Dependent Claims Are Allowable Because The Independent Claim From Which They Depend Is Allowable

Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplimatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Accordingly, as claims 1 and 4 are patentable for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

IV. Conclusion

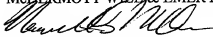
Having responded to all open issues set forth in the Office Action, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Application No.: 10/509,491

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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